

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PRS-01 L-03

EUR-12 EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 H-02 SAJ-01 SAM-01

IO-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /081 W

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R 190703Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6487

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

DIA WASHDC

FBIS OKINAWA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT MILI MPOL EIND CH

SUBJ: PLA BROADENS INVOLVEMENT IN INDUSTRY

REF: HONG KONG 9417

1. BROADCASTS FROM INNER MONGOLIA AND KIANGSU ON PLA PARTICIPATION IN IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTION INDICATE THAT THE DECISION TO USE PLA UNITS IN INDUSTRIAL AREAS WAS TAKEN SEVERAL MONTHS AGO. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT ANY OF THE PROBLEMS IN THESE PROVINCES APPROACH THOSE OF CHEKIANG (REFTEL), IT DOES REVEAL THAT THE PLA IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN FACTORIES IN WIDELY DISPARATE AREAS.

2. RADIO INNER MONGOLIA STATED AUGUST 16 THAT MEMBERS  
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OF A CERTAIN UNIT IN ITS MILITARY DISTRICT HAD BEEN SENT

TO THE HUHEHOT IRON AND STEEL PLANT "OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS". RADIO KIANGSU COMMENTED RECENTLY THAT MEMBERS OF THE NANKING MILITARY REGION HAD MADE " ACTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS" IN DEVELOPING IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTION, ALONG WITH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR. THIS KIANGSU BROADCAST COMES ON THE HEELS OF A REPORT THAT LOCAL PLA UNITS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN A COAL MINE IN HSUCHOW, NORTHERN KIANGSU (REFTEL).

3. COMMENT. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT AT THIS TIME OF PLA INVOLVEMENT IN INDUSTRY PROBABLY MEANS THAT IN THE AREAS OF OCCURENCE, MOST OF THE PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN SORTED OUT. THE BROADCASTS ARE ALSO PROBABLY MEANT AS A WARNING TO WORKERS THAT SHOULD SERIOUS PROBLEMS ARISE, THE REGIME WILL NOT RULE OUT THE OPTION OF SENDING IN TROOPS. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER, AS IN AGRICULTURE, THE PLA WILL BE USED ON A REGULAR BASIS TO HELP WITH FACTORY PRODUCTION OR WHETHER THIS IS A TEMPORARY MEASURE AIMED AT APPLYING "PROLETARIAN DICTATORSHIP" TO SORT OUT WORKER UNREST.CROSS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMED FORCES, POLITICAL SITUATION, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975HONGK09557  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750286-0180  
**From:** HONG KONG  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 80  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 HONG KONG 9417  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <10 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PLA BROADENS INVOLVEMENT IN INDUSTRY  
**TAGS:** PINT, MILI, MPOL, EIND, CH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006